

Pakistani Citizens *in* Indian Jails

† 1417. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of prisoners who are having Pakistani citizenship, undergoing imprisonment in Indian jails alongwith the details of their crimes; and

(b) the number of convicted prisoners handed over to Pakistan after their release from the jails during the period from 1st January, 1999 to 31st January, 2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Youngsters duped by Placement Firms

1418. SHRI CM. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report as appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 19th December, 1999 captioned "Placement firm dupes sixty youngsters of lakhs";

(b) if so, the number of firms and placement companies who are reported to have duped the employment seekers, especially foreign assignment seekers in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta during 1997, 1998 and 1999; and

(c) the effective steps taken to tackle the menace involving duping of youths seeking job?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The number of such firms and placement companies

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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against whom cases were registered in Delhi during the last three years, from 1997 to 1999, is 29. The steps taken to tackle this menace include immediate initiation of legal action by Delhi Police against such firms/companies on receipt of specific complaints; to check the authenticity and keep a watch on the working of such placement firms; and setting up of a special Economic Offences Wing under Crime Branch for speedy and effective investigation of such cases.

In so far as Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta are concerned, "Public Order" and "Police" being state subject as per the Constitution of India, the registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is essentially the responsibility of the State Governments concerned.

Baba Budan Girl Shrine

1419. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Ayodhya Ram Mandir like situation had been brewing since December last around the Baba Budan Giri Hills in Karnataka, a historic Sufi Shrine;

(b) whether the three day Datta Jayanthi celebrations on December 22 last ended in violence by Bajrang Dal activists, hundreds of whom thronged the Peetha to desecrate the Shrine, resulting in serious injuries to some of them, including police personnel; and

(c) what steps have been or are being taken to resolve the issue and to protect the historical sufi shrine against constant threats from fundamentalists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) Datlatreya Peetha—Baba Budangiri Hills shrine is sacred to both Hindus and Muslims. While the Muslims visit the shrine round the year, and in large numbers during annual Urs, the Hindus visit